

Habitat Project Proposal

Proposal Title: North Cottonwood Canyon Lop and Scatter/Bullhog Treatment

Proposal Number: 1199

DWR Region: Southern Region

Lead Agency: DWR

County: Iron

Project Manager: Jason Nicholes

PM Phone: 4358656113

Regional Priority: Within Focus Area

Project Type: Terrestrial Habitat

Proposed Start Date: 06/01/2008

Project Location: Immediately south of Hwy 20 south to Cottonwood Canyon

Project Description: Treat up to 1500 acres with Lop and Scatter/Bullhog in an old chained area with some new treatment area.

Description of Problem/Need: Surrounding area is dominated by Pinion and Juniper woodland. Most of the project area was previously chained at an unknown date. The project area is being over-grown with young Pinion and Juniper. There is currently good sagebrush, grass and some forb production on portions of the project area. If project is not done we are at risk of letting this high priority mule deer wintering habitat return to older growth Pinion and Juniper forest which will provide little to no forage for wildlife.

Objectives: Objective is to increase/maintain wildlife forage and wildlife carrying capacity on the Panguitch Lake Unit. Protect shrubsteppe habitat by stopping encroachment of Pinyon-Juniper on historic chained area.
Enhance sagebrush, grass and forb communities by removing competition from overgrown Pinyon-Juniper.
Provide nesting opportunities for sensitive raptor species by leaving some juniper trees in the open areas.
Decrease the risk of fire and reduce the spread of cheatgrass by reducing the canopy cover and fuel loading of juniper trees.

Relevance to Strategic Plans: The project area occurs in the shrubsteppe habitat type which is one of the key habitats identified in the WAP. This area supports Mule Deer (Tier III) and Greater Sage-Grouse (Tier II). Other Tier III species that could benefit from the treatment are the Sage Sparrow, Brewer's Sparrow, Sage Thrasher, and Ferruginous Hawk.

Potential Risks: In the current condition we are at risk of letting a high priority mule deer wintering range revert to old growth Pinyon-Juniper. In the desired condition the site would produce beneficial shrubsteppe habitat for wildlife.

Proposed Methods: Young growth Pinion and Juniper will be removed by hand crews using chainsaws to Lop and Scatter trees in area where the Bull Hog is cannot be used due to slope and terrain and Bull Hog should be used where it can be applied and in areas where larger trees need to be removed.

Shapefile Name: S:\DWR\HPD-2009\GIS Shape Files\cottonwood_1199.

Seed Source:

UPCD Reg Team Coord Date:

Proposed NEPA Action:

Proposed Arch Action:

☒ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☒ **Wildlife Monitoring**

Monitoring Details: Project area will be monitored twice per year following project implementation. A visual walk through survey will be done by UDWR biologists in early spring and late summer for 3 years following project completion.

Cons. Outreach Details:

SPECIES BENEFITING

Mule Deer	Elk	Greater Sage-grouse	Ferruginous Hawk
Sage Sparrow	Sage Thrasher	Brewer's Sparrow	

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LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner	Acres
BLM	1500
Total	1500

PROPOSED FUNDING

Source	Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
BLM (Watershed)	\$30,000.00		\$0.00
Habitat Acct 174	\$36,500.00		\$0.00
Totals	\$66,500.00		\$0.00

PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description	DWR Account	In Kind/ Partner Contrib.
Contractual Services	500 acres of Lop and Scatter @ \$100/acre	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
Equipment Rental	Rental of Fecon Head for 2 months	\$3,500.00	\$0.00
Materials and Supplies	Fuel and skid steer maintenance	\$8,000.00	\$0.00
Personal Services	Seasonal Labor	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Totals		\$66,500.00	\$0.00

PROPOSED FUNDING ALLOCATION

Funding Type	Funding Percent
Big Game	100
Total	100.00%

Project Map:

